Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 MCE-00 DODE-00 EB-08 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 /035 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:D E ZWEIFEL:SEB APPROVED BY NEA:N A VELIOTES NEA/RA:E A PADELFORD PM/MC:A SUCHINSKY

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R 311659Z AUG 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 208185

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, EG

SUBJECT: MUNITION CASES FOR EGYPT

REF: CAIRO 14323

- 1. CINCINNATI ELECTRONICS AND E-SYSTEMS REPRESENTATIVES INDEPENDENTLY HAVE APPROACHED THE DEPARTMENT TO MAKE PITCHES ON RADIO COPRODUCTION IN EGYPT. EACH HAS SOUGHT A LETTER OR OTHER DOCUMENTATION WHICH WOULD SUPPORT THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITION IN DISCUSSIONS WITH NASAR TV. WE HAVE TAKEN SAME LINE AS THAT DESCRIBED IN REFTEL, NAMELY, THAT USG CANNOT BECOME INVOLVED IN MATTER WHICH IS ESSENTIALLY ONE OF COMMERCIAL COMPETITION.
- 2. MUNITIONS CONTROL (PM/MC) HAS APPROVED AGREEMENTS WHICH WOULD PERMIT EITHER COMPANY TO ENTER INTO COPRODUCTION WITH NASAR TV. BASIC DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TWO COMPETITORS IS THAT CINCINNATI ELECTRONICS HAS A SIGNED CONTRACT CONFIDENTIAL

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WITH NASAR TV WHEREAS E-SYSTEMS DOES NOT. HOWEVER, CINCINNATI CONTRACT MUST BE REVISED TO CONFORM TO PM/MC PROVISOS. WHETHER NASAR TV CHOOSES TO RENEGOTIATE THEIR CONTRACT WITH CINCINNATI OR TO NEGOTIATE AN ENTIRELY NEW AGREEMENT WITH E-SYSTEMS IS A MATTER FOR EGYPTIANS TO DECIDE.

3. IN THE EVENT THAT NASAR TV WRITES EMBASSY REQUESTING CLARIFICATION (PARA 2 REFTEL), YOU SHOULD RESPOND THAT ALTHOUGH WE UNDERSTAND A CONTRACT HAS BEEN SIGNED WITH CINCINNATI ELECTRONICS, THAT CONTRACT MUST BE REVISED TO MEET LICENSING STANDARDS. THE SAME LICENSING STANDARDS WOULD APPLY TO ANY CONTRACT EGYPTIANS MAY WISH TO NEGOTIATE WITH E-SYSTEMS; DRAFT AGREEMENT PRESENTED BY E-SYSTEMS THUS WOULD REQUIRE REVISION AS WELL. THE USG CANNOT COMMENT ON THE RELATIVE MERITS OF EITHER OF THE TWO COMPETING FIRMS, AND OUR ROLE IS CONFINED TO ASSURING THAT WHICHEVER FIRM IS SELECTED MEETS THE PROVISOS PERTINENT TO MUNITIONS CONTROL LICENSING. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009

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